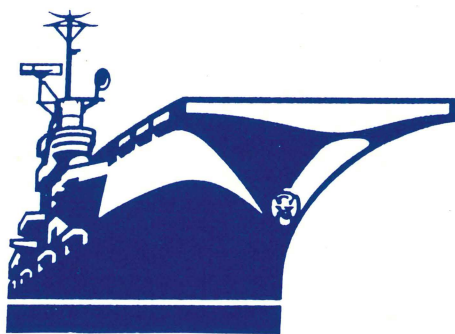


USS Hornet Aircraft Carrier Achievements

The historic USS Hornet (CVS-12), one of the 24 legendary Essex-class aircraft carriers, was constructed at Newport News, Virginia in 1942-43. Her construction crew included women, the famous "Rosie the Riveters." Hornet's exploits in the Pacific were spectacular and astonishing:

- For 18 months Hornet never tied up at a pier and was often in the front areas of the Pacific war.
- Under attack 59 times, she was never hit by a bomb, torpedo, or Kamikaze.
- 10 pilots became "ace in a day."
- 72 planes were shot down in a day—a Navy record.
- 255 planes were shot down in a month—another Navy record.
- Hornet launched first strikes in the liberation of the Philippines and against Tokyo.
- For her role in the assault landings in the Pacific in WW II she earned 9 battle stars.
- For her exploits in WW II she was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.
- In 1969, while the largest TV audience in history watched, Hornet recovered the Apollo 11 space capsule and the first men to walk on the moon.
- Hornet went on to recover Apollo 12 with the all Navy crew of "moon walkers."
- In 1991 Hornet was designated a National Historic Landmark.



USS HORNET MUSEUM TOUR GUIDE AND MAP



For your safety:

- Please do not run—falling on steel hurts!
- Children must be with an adult at all times.
- Hold onto ladder rails with both hands.
- Please don't climb on aircraft.
- Please don't touch buttons or knobs—the ship's 440 volt electricity can be dangerous.
- Please don't bring backpacks aboard.
- Watch your step over doorsills.
- Please **DO** enjoy your visit.



Hours: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Pier 3, Alameda • 510-521-8448

\$5 children 5-18; \$9 adults; \$7 seniors and military
School field trips and group tours, ext. 235
Private and corporate functions, ext.236

Ships' Terms

Aft: Toward the rear of the ship.

Air Boss: Air Department Officer responsible for all flight and hangar deck operations.

Bow: The front of a ship.

Bridge: Central command-and-control station on board a warship.

Deck: The floor surface of a ship that runs the complete length of the hull.

Fantail: The open, aftermost area of the ship.

Forward: Toward the front of the ship.

Head: Restroom.

Island: Navy term for the superstructure above the flight deck.

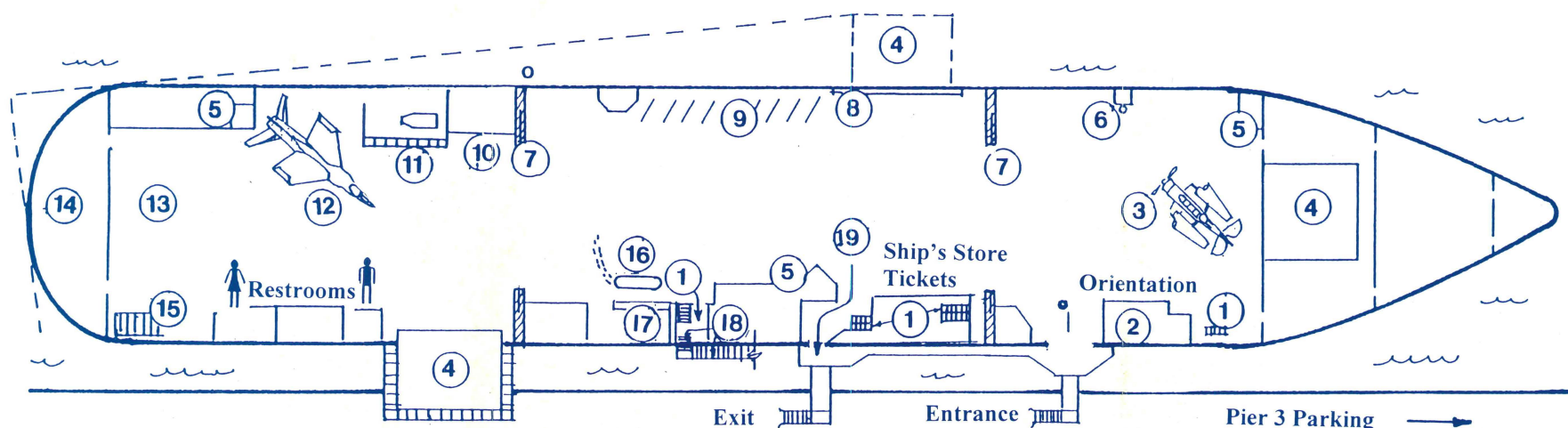
Port: The left side of a ship when one faces the bow.

Starboard: The right side of the ship when one faces the bow.

Stern: The rearmost point on a ship.

Watch: The on-duty period for naval personnel at their stations.

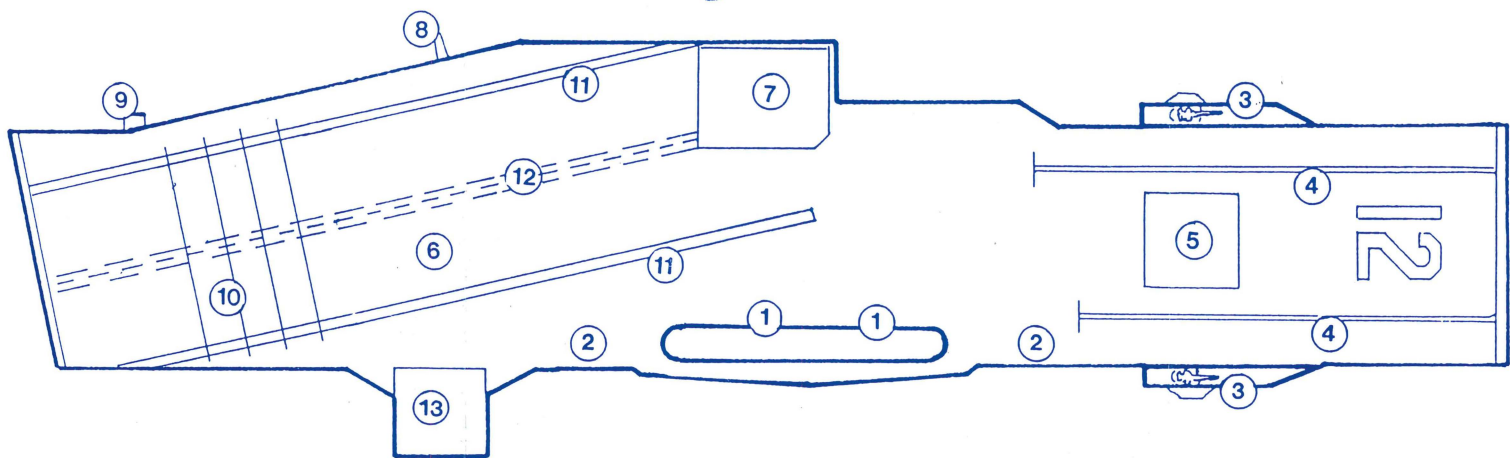
Hangar Deck



The huge Hangar Deck, where aircraft were stored and repaired, is divided into three bays, each with fire doors and a conflagration station for fighting fires and explosions. The deck (floor) is made of 3-inch thick special treatment steel. It's the main strength deck of the Hornet and can stop a 500-pound bomb. Each bay has an elevator to transport aircraft to and from the flight deck. The quarterdeck, the museum entrance, is the official place to welcome visitors.

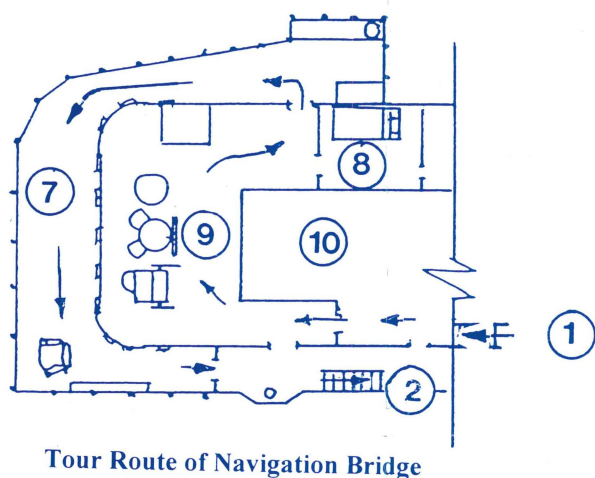
1. Ladders to the Flight Deck, Island (or Bridge) and 2nd Deck.
2. Bomb elevator that transported weapons from storage to the flight deck.
3. TBM World War II vintage torpedo-bomber made by General Motors. Former President Bush flew this type of aircraft which carried a crew of 3—a pilot, radioman, and turret gunner—and weapons such as torpedoes, bombs, or rockets. This plane's turret has been removed. The wings fold, like a butterfly's, for storage.
4. Aircraft Elevators (Hornet has three) that can carry 60,000 pounds (that's 30 elephants!)
5. Conflagration stations overhanging the bays with small slit windows. Sprinkler systems are coded by color—red for salt water and green for foam. (Purple pipes indicate aviation gas.)
6. Basketball backboard. The crew enjoyed sports, church services, movies, and in-port dances.
7. Fire division doors.
8. Roll up curtains—just like your bedroom shades—let fresh air in and kept out water and ocean spray.
9. Photo history of United States aircraft carriers.
10. Plank Owners Wall featuring names of museum contributors. Find out how you can help the ship.
11. Flight Simulator. Experience the thrill of a Desert Storm mission that includes an aerial dogfight. Ride in the cockpit of an F-18 with actual audio from Desert Storm fighter pilots, and you take off and land on an aircraft carrier.
12. F-8U Crusader.
13. Designated eating area. Don't forget to throw your trash in the garbage cans!
14. Fantail with a fabulous view of San Francisco.
15. CPO (Chief Petty Officer) mess that is available for parties and events.
16. Apollo 11 astronauts' first footsteps back on earth after their historic voyage to the moon and the outline of the mobile quarantine facility where they stayed with their doctor. Fortunately they did not bring any strange "moon germs" back with them.
17. Apollo exhibit featuring actual video footage of Hornet's recovery of the Apollo 11 astronauts and their capsule. Memorabilia, such as Buzz Aldrin's hat, are on display.
18. Stationary escalator—the easiest route to the flight deck—and a ladder leading below to the 2nd deck.
19. Exit, security station, and lost and found.

Flight Deck

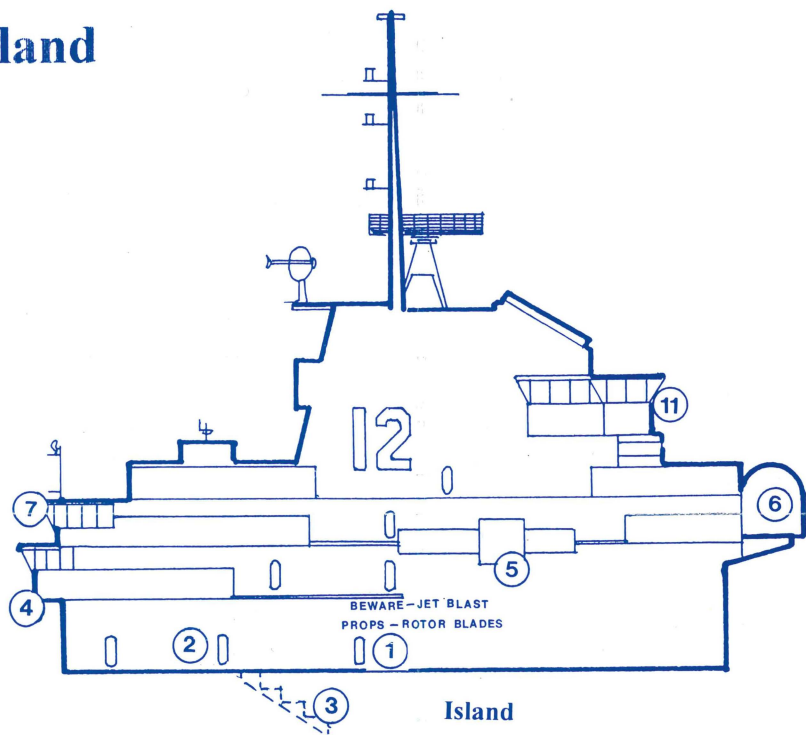


1. Ladders up and down from the Hangar Deck to the Flight Deck.
2. Bomb elevators that brought up bombs for aircraft and ammunition for guns.
3. Gun Sponsons. Four 5-inch, 38 caliber guns remain on the Hornet. It took 15 men to operate one of these guns which could fire 15 rounds per minute. Each projectile weighed 54 pounds, traveled 2,700 feet per second, with a range of 12 miles distance and 32,500 feet altitude.
4. Tracks for the H-8 Hydraulic catapults that launched aircraft from 0 to 150 miles per hour in 2.75 seconds.
5. #1 Aircraft Elevator.
6. Landing Area (the deck is 3-inch wood over 3/16th-inch steel plate).
7. #2 Aircraft Elevator where helicopter #66 brought the Apollo 11 and 12 astronauts down to Hangar Bay 2.
8. Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System, nicknamed the "ball" because it looked like a red ball moving to help the pilot position his aircraft for landing.
9. Landing Signal Officer (LSO) platform where an officer used brightly colored paddles to signal landing directions to pilots before the Fresnel Lens Optical Landing System was introduced.
10. Cross Deck Pendants, the wires that caught the aircraft's tail hook and stopped it after landing.
11. Landing Borderlines marked the safe landing area.
12. Landing Centerline guided pilots as they landed.
13. #3 Aircraft Elevator.

Island



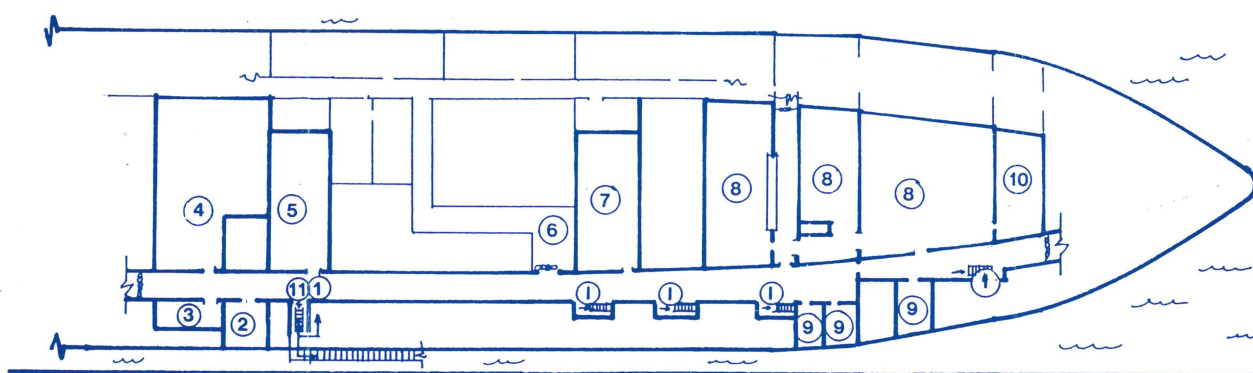
Tour Route of Navigation Bridge



Island

1. Ladders up only—access to Navigation Bridge tour.
2. Ladders down only.
3. Stationary escalator.
4. Flag Bridge, where the admirals and their staffs controlled Task Force operations.
5. Flag Signal Platform, the oldest form of sending signals between vessels at sea, that remains in use today despite advances in electronic communications. Signalmen noted for speed and accuracy in composing messages ran up flag messages on the lines above the flag board. They used individual flags letters of the alphabet, for numbers, and for commands. Other flags represented entire messages, and groups of flags were used to send messages by code.
6. Radome with radar equipment that enabled pilots to make a carrier controlled approach for landing.
7. Navigation Bridge, the province of the ship's commanding officer, the Captain. From his chair, on the left, or port, side of the Navigation Bridge, the captain had direct communication with all departments and areas of the ship, as well as any admiral on the flag bridge below. Using a sound-powered telephone he could talk with the air officer, or Air Boss, in Primary Flight Control (the glass control room at the rear of the Island).
8. Captain's At-Sea Cabin.
9. Pilot House, the ship's control station.
10. Chart Room
11. Primary Flight Control (Pri Fly) where the "Air Boss" controlled aircraft launch and landing.

2nd Deck



1. Ladders to Hangar Deck.
2. Marine Detachment Office.
3. Marine Detachment Restroom.
4. Marine Detachment enlisted personnel berthing quarters.
5. Pilot Ready Room #4 with a display of launch and recovery operations.
6. Hornet Foundation Administrative Offices.
7. Pilot Ready Room #3, currently the museum's movie room.
8. Officer's Galley, Lounge, and Wardroom (dining room) which is available for parties.
9. Junior Officer Staterooms.
10. Pilot Ready Room #2, lit with red lights for night vision.
11. Ladder to stationary escalator and flight deck.